LILLIAN B. KOLLER, ESQ. DIRECTOR

HENRY OLIVA

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339 Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

March 11, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing

FROM:

Lillian B. Koller, Director

SUBJECT:

G.M. 355 - Gubernatorial Nomination of Larry M. Littleton to the State

Rehabilitation Council

Hearing:

Tuesday, March 11, 2008, 1:15 p.m.

Conference Room 016, State Capitol

The Department of Human Services strongly supports the nomination of Mr. Larry M. Littleton to the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC). The SRC was established in the 1992 amendments to the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and acts in partnership with the Department's Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind Division (VRSBD) on services that address the independent living and employment needs of individuals with disabilities.

Mr. Larry M. Littleton is seeking reappointment to his second term on the State Rehabilitation Council. He is a former recipient of vocational rehabilitation services who currently serves on the SRC Human Resources Committee and lives on Kauai. Mr. Littleton provides the Council with the perspective of an individual with a sensory disability and geographic representation for Kauai County.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony to this Committee.

Gary K. Heu **Administrative Assistant**



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

March 3, 2008

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland Committee on Human Services and Public Housing Hawaii State Capitol Rm. 226 Honolulu Hawaii 96813

Dear Honorable Chun Oakland,

I am writing this letter on behalf of Larry Littleton, nominee to the State Rehabilitation Council. As ADA Coordinator for the County of Kauai I have had the good fortune of working with Larry for 6 years. I appreciate the awareness Larry has brought to the county regarding effective communication and I value his opinion on the challenges our county has experienced affecting program access for people with disabilities.

Larry is currently the Chairman of the Mayors Advisory Committee For Equal Access (MACFEA) on Kauai. Larry also assists my office in providing a variety of ADA related trainings. Larry's sensitivity to people of all ages and abilities is remarkable.

I hope the Senate will strongly consider reinstating Larry for another term as he is a valuable advocate for the people he represents and truly an asset to have on any team.

Sincerely,

County of Kauai ADA Coordinator



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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March 11, 2008

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES AND PUBLIC HOUSING

GM 355 - Appointment of Larry M. Littleton to the State Rehabilitation Council

The Disability and Communication Access Board offers comment on the nomination of Mr. Larry M. Littleton to the State Rehabilitation Council. Mr. Littleton represents the deaf and hard of hearing community from the County of Kauai, although his vision and expertise is with the entire disability community.

Mr. Littleton has participated extensively and consistently in activities sponsored by the Disability and Communication Access Board. In particular he has co-chaired the Kauai Mayor's Advisory Committee on Equal Access, our counterpart at the county level. Mr. Littleton has attended quarterly meetings of the County Mayors Committees and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinators coordinated by our office to better inform himself on critical ADA and disability efforts. In addition, Mr. Littleton has recently been the most active Kauai representative to the Working Group to develop the 2008 Interagency Action Plan for the Emergency Preparedness of People with Disabilities and Special Health Needs.

Mr. Littleton is passionate and a strong advocate. Even more importantly, he strives to be well-informed and studious to issues and offers constructive criticism and suggestions on policy and program issues. Mr. Littleton will continue to be an asset to the State Rehabilitation Council.

Respectfully submitted,

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FRANCINE WAI Executive Director